

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 A-01 MMO-04 SS-15 SP-02 ABF-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0012

UNCLAS CAIRO 1840

FOR A, NEA/EX, AND AID

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, APER, EG

SUBJ: PROPOSED JOINT/AID ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

REF: CAIRO 1786

1. REFTEL SETS FORTH ADDITIONAL AID PERSONNEL NEEDED TO HANDLE ADEQUATELY ANTICIPATED INCREASED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR EGYPT AT APPROXIMATELY \$1 BILLION LEVEL (PL 480 WHEAT/WHEAT FLOUR INCLUDED). TOTAL NUMBER IS LESS THAN AID/W SUGGESTED, BUT IN JUDGMENT OF MY AID DIRECTOR AND MYSELF SHOULD BE ENOUGH GIVE AID/EGYPT MISSION CAPABILITY TO DEAL WITH MANY-FACETED ASPECTS OF EXPANDED PROGRAM.

ALONG WITH AID POSITIONS ALREADY APPROVED, NEW REQUEST WILL BRING TOTAL AID/EGYPT STAFFING TO 51. THIS WILL ALSO MEAN AID STAFF IS ABOUT HALF OF OVERALL CAIRO MISSION STAFF AND WILL POSE SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS, E.G., ADDITIONAL HOUSING, OFFICE FACILITIES, FURNITURE, VEHICLES, ETC. IN SHORT, IT WILL MATERIALLY ALTER THE EXISTING CONFIGURATION OF THE POST.

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2. INCLUDED IN NEWLY REQUESTED AID PERSONNEL

ARE AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND THREE GSO'S. IN STUDYING ALTERNATIVES TO INSURE ADEQUATE ADMINISTRATIVE BACKSTOPPING OF EXPANDED AID MISSION, I CONSIDERED AND REJECTED IDEA OF A SEPARATE AID ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE. TWO SUCH ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AT SAME POST, DESPITE LIAISON EFFORTS, WILL ONLY DUPLICATE SERVICES AND WILL COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER IN SEEKING PROCURE HOUSING, EQUIPMENT, ETC., IN LIGHT CAIRO AVAILABILITIES SITUATION. INSTEAD, I HAVE DETERMINED THERE SHOULD BE AN INTEGRATED EMBASSY/AID ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION CHARGED WITH ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR TOTAL CAIRO MISSION. AID ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WILL BE DEPUTY TO ADMINISTRATIVE COUNSELOR AND THREE GSO'S WILL BE ADDED TO PRESENT GSO COMPLEMENT, BRINGING TOTAL TO SIX.

3. THIS NUMBER IS NOT EXCESSIVE GIVEN THE HORRENDOUS TASK THE POST FACES. I HAVE BEEN GRAVELY CONCERNED AT OUR CONTINUED INABILITY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO ALL SECTIONS OF THE EMBASSY. SIZE OF CAIRO, SCATTERED LOCATIONS OF STAFF RESIDENCES ALL OVER THE CITY, POOR QUALITY LOCAL TECHNICIANS AND OBSOLETE PLANT WHICH WE OPERATE, TO MENTION BUT A FEW FACTORS, HAVE MADE THE LOGISTIC SUPPORT FUNCTION FOR THIS POST A NIGHTMARE. UNLESS ADMIN SECTION IS BOLSTERED WITH ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF ENLARGED AID STAFF, OUR LOGISTIC SUPPORT EFFORTS WILL BOG DOWN STILL MORE. BY INTEGRATING AID ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL INTO A SINGLE POST ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION, THEY CAN BE MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE.

4. ONLY LAST WEEK DEPT APPROVED OUR LONGSTANDING DEC 74 AND SEPT 75) REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL FSL SHARED PERSONNEL. WE ARE HIRING NOW TO MEET IMMEDIATE JOB REQUIREMENTS. AS AID/EGYPT INCREASES IN SIZE, ADDITIONAL FSL SLOTS, ALSO TO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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PROVIDED BY AID, WILL BE NECESSARY.
EILTS

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